

Thomas O. Forslund, Director

Governor Matthew H. Mead

September 20, 2011

Dear Colleagues,

It is hard to believe that a year has passed already! But, here we are, approaching the fall season and the new legislative session is just around the corner.

Trauma Conference

We had another very successful Trauma Conference and I sincerely hope that you will start planning now to attend the 42nd Conference.

Class Deadlines

If you would like to host a class for the spring of 2012 the deadline for your application to be in is rapidly approaching. We need to have your application in the office before October 15.

Background Checks

For those that are renewing this year, if you have successfully completed the background checks previously there is no need to do them again.

Hospital Site Reviews

Every hospital is required by law to have a site review done and rating given under the Trauma System Rules. EMS is an integral part of the Trauma System. This means that your service should have a close working relationship with your local facility. When site reviews are done at a local hospital, the level of involvment of EMS is reflected in the report. Please contact your hospitals Trauma Coordinator or Manager and find out how you can support them and when they anticipate a site review. Our expectation of the required involvement of EMS with the hospital is going to be an increasing area of emphasis.

EMS Docking Stations

Jay is working on getting docking stations for the tablets installed starting this fall. This will take some time and coordination, but hopefully in the future, your crews will find it much easier to complete their reporting requirements at the emergency departments.

OEMS Moving and Reorganization Within the Department of Health

We have been notified that we are to relocate somewhere around early to mid-November of this year. Director Forslund has realigned the Office of EMS into a "new" Public Health Division and Dr. Wendy Braund has been hired as the Senior Administrator of the Division and will also be assuming the role of State Health Officer. Dr. Braund should assume her position in early October. As part of the realignment, Director Forslund is consolidating the offices of the new division around Dr. Braund, so

the OEMS will be moving to the Qwest Building on Yellowstone Road here in Cheyenne. We do not yet know what our new mailing address is, but you may continue to use the Hathaway Building.

Ambulance Business Licenses

The renewal forms for business licenses will be sent out shortly.

Education

There has been a lot of concern about changes that are coming to our courses and new requirements. Yes, changes are coming. Some of the courses are going to see an increase in hours, some may not see significant changes. I am working with the National Association of EMS Educators (NAEMSE) and hope to bring into the office to work with us on refining what changes need to be made to curriculums and to help keep us on track with the new educational standards. There are plenty of materials available and I would suggest that you take some time to read through some of these things. One site that I use frequently is the National Association of State EMS Officials (NASEMSO) website at: http://www.nasemso.org/EMSEducationImplementationPlanning/index.asp. There are many tools available to help you understand the new standards and how to analyze gaps in education. This can help you plan your training year.

Volunteer EMT Pension Fund

Last, but not least, please reevaluate where you and your service are in relation to this fund. It is state law that this opportunity be made available to volunteer EMTs. Even if the individual receives some compensation for serving as an EMT (such as a stipend) they may still be eligible. If you have questions, please contact the Wyoming Retirement System at 307-777- 7691 or through their website at: http://retirement.state.wy.us/.

Thanks for your continued dedication.

Stay safe,

Andy Gienapp